

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 213305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, SWEL, UR, US

SUBJECT: RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA: TREATMENT IN USSR FOR
COLETTE BRUNKAN (CONGRESSMAN ASPIN INTEREST) AND JAMES
NEPPL (CONGRESSMAN RAILSBACK INTEREST)

REF: (A) MOSCOW 11408, (B) MOSCOW 10794, (C) MOSCOW
09246

1. CONGRESSMAN ASPIN'S OFFICE HAS AGAIN REQUESTED DEPART-
MENT/EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ASCERTAINING STATUS OF BRUNKAN
APPLICATION FOR TREATMENT AT HELMHOLTZ INSTITUTE.

2. MOH ADVISED EMBOFF EARLY AUGUST, AS PER REFTTEL A, THAT
SPECIALISTS WERE STUDYING BRUNKAN'S APPLICATION FOR HELM-
HOLTZ TREATMENT AND WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO OBTAIN
DECISION IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO ALLOW HER TO TRAVEL TO
MOSCOW WITH FELLOW RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA SUFFERER JAMES
NEPPL.

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3. NEPPL HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR TREATMENT AT HELMHOLTZ
INSTITUTE SEPT./OCT. 1977, AS PER REFTTEL C, AND WILL
DEPART US FOR USSR SEPTEMBER 17. DEPARTMENT HAS ASKED
NEPPL TO CONTACT SCIENCE OFFICE AFTER ARRIVAL AND AGAIN
AFTER CONCLUSION OF HELMHOLTZ TREATMENT.

4. ASPIN'S OFFICE ASSUMES ANY MOH AUTHORIZATION FOR
BRUNKAN'S TREATMENT WILL BE TOO LATE FOR BRUNKAN TO
ACCOMPANY NEPL BUT ASKS THAT MOH BE ADVISED THAT BRUNKAN
PREPARED TO TRAVEL ALONE TO USSR AT LATER DATE IF HELM-
HOLTZ ACCEPTANCE FORTHCOMING.
VANCE

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